



## **Landscape Recycled Water Usage**

### ***Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – May 2015***

- **Q: WHERE DID THE IDEA ORIGINATE FOR THE HOSPITAL TO PARTNER WITH THE CITY OF CLOVIS FOR USE OF RECYLED WATER FOR LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION PURPOSES?**

A: Clovis Community was approached by the City of Clovis with a recycled water use partnership opportunity because of the nearby proximity of the hospital to the city's main recycled water transmission location.

Also considered in the decision to move our landscape irrigation to recycled water was the fact that our hospital's campus water wells had dried up and access to canal water was limited.

- **Q: WHAT WAS THE TIMEFRAME FOR THE PROJECT FROM START TO FINISH?**

A: We began the planning phase of the recycled water project with the City of Clovis in spring 2013. Construction of the hospital's infrastructure for the recycled water system began in spring 2014 and was completed in March 2015.

- **Q: WHAT WAS REQUIRED OF THE HOSPITAL TO BUILD THE SYSTEM?**

A: The project required us to initially invest in and build an infrastructure system (purple pipes, sprinkler boxes, sprinkler heads, etc.) that connects to the city's main line (that runs along Temperance Avenue).

We sought a lot of expert input from not only the city but from business partners who have experience in drought tolerant landscaping, recycled water system design and more.

- **Q: WHAT DOES THE USE OF RECYCLED WATER FOR LANDSCAPE IRRIGATION MEAN FOR THE HOSPITAL?**

A: Today, Clovis Community is leading the way in the use of recycled water and is the first and largest private user of recycled water in the City of Clovis.

We are currently using an average of 3.5 million gallons of recycled water for landscape irrigation every month. The cost of recycled water is about half that of potable water so there is a significant cost-savings that we are benefiting from through this partnership with the city.

- **Q: IS THE ENTIRE HOSPITAL USING RECYCLED WATER?**

A: No. The hospital campus relies on two separate water systems – one is potable (drinkable) water for use inside the hospital buildings and the other is non-potable (recycled) water that is being used for landscape irrigation. The two water systems are maintained separately by our facilities staff who have undergone special training from the City of Clovis.

- **Q: WILL THE PROJECT CONTINUE TO GROW AS THE HOSPITAL CAMPUS GROWS?**

A: Yes, the infrastructure has been installed for future hospital campus expansion.

- **Q: HOW DOES THIS PARTNERSHIP BENEFIT THE CITY OF CLOVIS?**

A: Our recycled water usage will assist the city in meeting its goals for potable water conservation because the recycled water is being used within the city which reduces demands on the potable water system.

If the city's recycled water was not being used by partners like us, it would otherwise eventually be routed to creeks or canals.

- **Q: WHERE DOES THE RECYCLED WATER COME FROM?**

A: The recycled water comes from the City of Clovis sewer plant after it has gone through a treatment phase that makes the water safe for irrigating. The recycled water can be used for landscape irrigation but not for agricultural crops and trees.

- **Q: WHAT TYPE OF LANDSCAPE IS PLANTED AT THE HOSPITAL?**

A: Our park-like campus features large open spaces with drought tolerant trees, grasses and shrubs. The new landscape uses all recycled water while beautifying our grounds with plants and grass that require less water.

The large grass lawn areas surrounding the exterior of the campus have been planted with a drought-resistant hybrid Bermuda grass which uses about 50% less water.

- **Q: WHAT OTHER EFFORTS HAS THE HOSPITAL IMPLEMENTED TO CONSERVE WATER?**

A: With our recent hospital growth we have been very proactive and diligent about potable water conservation inside the hospital as well. The expansion and renovation of our hospital allowed for installation of fixtures that use less water by 29% for showers, 32% for sinks and 63% of toilets.